

REMARKS

Claims 38, 47 and 51-56, 58-61, 63, 65-68, 72-84 and 93-103 are pending in the above-captioned patent application following this amendment. Claims 38, 47 and 51-56, 58-61, 63, 65-68, 72-84 and 93-103 have been allowed. Claims 104-106 have been rejected. Claims 55, 66, 78 and 82 have been objected to based on various informalities. Claims 55, 66, 78 and 82 have been amended to correct obvious clerical errors, and claims 104-106 have been canceled without prejudice by this amendment for the purpose of expediting the patent application process in a manner consistent with the goals of the Patent Office pursuant to 65 Fed. Reg. 54603 (September 8, 2000), even though the applicants believe that the previously pending claims were allowable.

No new matter is believed to have been added. Consideration of the Application is respectfully requested.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 55, 66, 78 and 82 have been objected to based on various informalities. As provided above, claims 55, 66, 78 and 82 have been amended to correct what the Applicants believe are clerical errors. As corrected, claims 55, 66, 78 and 82 are allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 104-106 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ostwald (US 5,418,664). The Applicants have canceled claims 104-106 without prejudice by this amendment. Therefore, the rejection of claim 104-106 is believed to be moot.

Allowed Claims


Claims 38, 47 and 51-56, 58-61, 63, 65-68, 72-84 and 93-103 have been allowed.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 38, 47 and 51-56, 58-61, 63, 65-68, 72-84 and 93-103 are allowable, and that the application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 858-487-4077 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this the 25th day of January, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,


JAMES P. BRODER
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 43,514

The Law Office of Steven G. Roeder
5560 Chelsea Avenue
La Jolla, California 92037
Telephone: (858) 487-4077